

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

231331Z Feb 04

UNCLAS ROME 000659

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DEPT FOR EB/ESC/TFC - GLASS/SALOOM
IO/PHO, L/EB
TREASURY FOR ZARATE, ROSS AND WALLWORTH

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EFIN](#) [PREL](#) [IZ](#) [IT](#) [UNSC](#)

SUBJECT: IRAQI ASSETS: ASSISTANCE IN RECOVERING RAFIDAIN
BANK ASSETS

REF: A. SECSTATE 36435

- [B](#). ROME 611
- [C](#). ROME 385
- [D](#). ROME 227

[1](#). (U) INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REF A WAS DELIVERED TO ROBERTO CICIANI, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE ON MONEY-LAUNDERING AND FINANCIAL CRIMES, FINANCE MINISTRY, ON FEBRUARY 20. HE INDICATED HE WOULD SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ITALY'S FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT, THE UFFICIO ITALIANO DEI CAMBI (UIC).

[2](#). (SBU) REF C INCLUDED INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE GOI ON RAFIDAIN BANK ASSETS. THE GOI CONFIRMED THE EXISTENCE OF RAFIDAIN BANK ASSETS IN BANCA NAZIONALE DI LAVORO, UBAE ARAB ITALIAN BANK, AND UNICREDITO ITALIANO SPA. AS REPORTED IN REF D, UNICREDITO ITALIANO TRANSFERRED RAFIDAIN BANK ASSETS OF EURO 2,234.93 AND USD 662.34 TO THE DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR IRAQ ON DECEMBER 18. THE GOI DID NOT HAVE INFORMATION REGARDING RAFIDAIN BANK ASSETS HELD BY BANCA INTESA MILANO.

[3](#). (SBU) FINANCE MINISTER TREMONTI AND FINANCE SECRETARY GENERAL SINISCALCO TOLD THE AMBASSADOR ON FEBRUARY 17 (REF B) THAT FINANCE AND UIC ARE PRESSING BANKS TO RELEASE AND TRANSFER ASSETS AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.
SEMBLER

NNNN

2004ROME00659 - Classification: UNCLASSIFIED